

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to compositions and methods for secretion of functional proteins in a soluble form by host cells. In particular, the invention relates to membrane targeting and translocation proteins, MttA, MttB and MttC and to variants and homologs thereof. The membrane targeting and translocation proteins are useful in targeting protein expression to the periplasm of gram negative bacteria and to extracellular media of other host cells. Such expression allows secretion of expressed proteins of interest in a functional and soluble form, thus facilitating purification and increasing the yield of functional proteins of interest.